

hands of the great men, since it is used to pay fees, fines, gifts, tribute, etc. The armengol women, marriages, and public festivals start it out again, and on its way back it performs many social services. It is also reasonable to suppose that, having got a footing on these islands, it spread -to others by social contagion. This explains the presence of a general medium of exchange amongst people who are otherwise barely out of the stone age.<sup>1</sup> The tales about the crimes which have been connected with the history of great pieces of the aragonite stone<sup>2</sup> remind us of the stories about the greatest diamonds yet found.

151. Money in northwestern North America. In South America nothing served the purposes of money. There was none in Peru. Metal, if they had any, was used by all for ornament.<sup>3</sup> Marti us, however, says of the Mauhes that they used seeds of *paullinia sorbilis* as money. They obtained from the seeds a remedy for skin disease and diarrhoea.<sup>4</sup> The Nishinam of California had two kinds of shell money, ullo and hawok. The former consists of pieces, one or two inches long and one third of that in width, strung on a fiber. The pieces of shell take a high polish and make a fine necklace. The hawok is small money by comparison. A string of the large kind was worth .ten dollars. It consisted of ten pieces. A string of one hundred and seventy-seven pieces of the small kind sold for seven dollars. In early days every Indian in California had, on an average, one hundred dollars' worth of the shell money, the value of two women (although they did not buy wives) or three average ponies.<sup>5</sup> The Hupa of California will not sell to an American the flakes of jasper or obsidian which they parade at their dances. They are not knives, but jewelry and money amongst themselves. Nearly every man has ten lines tattooed across the inside of his left arm. A string of five shells is the standard unit. It is drawn over the left thumb nail. If it reaches the uppermost tattooed line it is worth five dollars per shell.<sup>6</sup> They also grind down pieces of stone which looks like meerschaum into cylinders one to three inches long, which they wear as jewelry and use as money.<sup>7</sup> The Eskimo of Alaska used skins as money. Here the effect of intergroup trade has been to change the skin which was taken as the unit. It is now the beaver. Other skins are rated as multiples or

submultiples of this.<sup>8</sup> In Washington Territory dentalium and abalone shells were the money, also slaves, skins, and blankets, until the closer contact with whites produced changes.<sup>9</sup> The Karok use as money the red scalps of wood-peckers which are rated at from \$2.50 to \$5.00 each, and also dentalium shells of which they grind off the tip. The shortest pieces are worth twenty-five cents, the longest about two dollars. The strings are generally about the

<sup>1</sup> Pfeil, *Aus der Sildsee*, 112.      <sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 76, 79.

<sup>2</sup> Semper, *Palau Ins.*, 118.      <sup>7</sup> *Smithson. Rep.*, 1886, Part I, 232.

<sup>3</sup> Martius, *Ethnog. Srasil.*, 91. \* *Bur. Etk.*, XVIII, Part I, 232.

\* *Ibid.*, 402.      <sup>9</sup> *Smithson. Rep.*, 1887, Part I, 647.

<sup>5</sup> Powers, *Calif. Indians*, 335.